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Carpinus caroliniana

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Wes Whiteside—Species Information Sheet

I. Nomenclature

Family: Betulaceae

Genus Species(Authority): *Carpinus caroliniana* Walter

Subspecies/Variety(Authority):

Cultivar:

Common Name: American hornbeam

II. Origin (country and/or habitat)

Native/Rare Native/Uncommon Old World/Rare Old
World/Uncommon

Carpinus caroliniana has a native range from Texas, north to Oklahoma, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, throughout the rest of the eastern United States, including Ontario and Quebec, occurring in understories along waterways (USDA 2011, Dirr 1998).

III. Habit

Tree

Shrub

Vine

Herbaceous Annual
Perennial

Herbaceous Biennial

Herbaceous

Flowering Season: May

Flower Color: Catkin

Fruit Type: Nutlet

IV. Source of Plant Material

From where or whom obtained and when: Dr. Whiteside dug three plants of *Carpinus caroliniana* from the wild near what is now Lakeview Park, adjacent to Lake Charleston around 1965. They were growing in a nursery bed for a period of time and then Dr. Whiteside transferred them to where they are now by the entrance to the driveway.

Propagule Material:

	Seed	Vegetative	Whole Plant
Details:			

Availability: Rarely offered commercially, overshadowed by selected European forms of *Carpinus*

V. Cultural

Special Soil Type: Average

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic Dry Other

VI. Additional Comments

Carpinus caroliniana has been easy to grow and slow growing, preferring sufficient moisture. Dr. Whiteside feels that it is underappreciated as an ornamental plant.

VII. Literature Cited

- Dirr, M. A. 1998 Manual of Woody Landscape Plants :Their Identification, Ornamental Characteristics, Culture, Propagation and Uses. Champaign, IL: Stipes Publishing L. L. C..
- USDA, NRCS. 2011. The PLANTS Database (<http://plants.usda.gov>, 20 October 2011). National Plant Data Team, Greensboro, NC 27401-4901 USA.





